

U.S. Application No. 09/539,972  
Attorney Docket No. 99-837  
Customer No. 32,127

**CLAIMS:**

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for customer centric network management comprising the steps, performed by a processor, of:

receiving identification data corresponding to a customer in a network;

accessing a generic information model database for one or more customer records corresponding to the customer identification data;

receiving selection information identifying a selected one of the one or more customer records, wherein the selected customer record corresponds to the customer; and

providing actual circuit path information corresponding to a customer service based on the selected customer record, wherein the actual circuit path information is used to generate a graphical representation of heterogeneous network components supporting a specific service for the customer.

Claim 2 (Canceled).

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3. (Previously Presented) A method for customer centric network management in a network comprising the steps, performed by a processor, of:

- populating a permanent database with network component information, the permanent database storing the network component information according to a generic information model;
- receiving customer identification data corresponding to a customer in the network;
- accessing the permanent database for one or more customer records corresponding to the customer identification data, each customer record having network component information associated with it;
- receiving selection information identifying a selected one of the one or more customer records, wherein the selected customer record corresponds to the customer;
- and
- providing actual circuit path information corresponding to a customer service based on the selected customer record, wherein the actual circuit path information is used to generate a graphical representation of heterogeneous network components supporting a specific service for the customer.

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4. (Original) The method of claim 3, said populating step further comprising:  
    sending component access information to an element management system, the  
    element management system retrieving network component information from at least  
    one component in the network;  
    receiving the network component information from the element management  
    system; and  
    storing the network component information in the permanent database.
5. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising:  
    updating the permanent database based on an automatic event.
6. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising:  
    updating the permanent database based on a manual event.
7. (Original) The method of claim 5, said updating step further comprising:  
    collecting new network component information;  
    storing the new network component information in a temporary database;  
    comparing the temporary database with the permanent database; and  
    modifying the permanent database according to comparison rules.

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8. (Original) The method of claim 6, said updating step further comprising:  
collecting new network component information;  
storing the new network component information in a temporary database;  
comparing the temporary database with the permanent database; and  
modifying the database according to comparison rules.

Claims 9-15 (Canceled).

16. (Previously Presented) A method for customer centric network management comprising the steps, performed by a processor, of:  
receiving identification data corresponding to a customer in a network;  
accessing a generic information model database for one or more customer records corresponding to the customer identification data;  
receiving selection information identifying a selected one of the one or more customer records, wherein the selected customer record corresponds to the customer;  
and  
providing actual circuit path information corresponding to a customer service based on the selected customer record, wherein the actual circuit path information is used to generate a graphical representation of a customer path.

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17. (Previously Presented) A method for customer centric network management in a network comprising the steps, performed by a processor, of:

populating a generic information model database with network component information, the database storing the network component information according to a generic information model;

receiving customer identification data corresponding to a customer in the network;

accessing the database for one or more customer records corresponding to the customer identification data, each customer record having network component information associated with it;

receiving selection information identifying a selected one of the one or more customer records, wherein the selected customer record corresponds to the customer; and

providing actual circuit path information corresponding to a customer service based on the selected customer record, wherein the actual circuit path information is used to generate a graphical representation of a customer path.

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18. (Previously Presented) A network management method comprising the steps, performed by a processor, of:

- using customer identification data capable of identifying a network customer to access one or more stored customer records;
- selecting at least one of the accessed customer records;
- determining, as a function of the selected customer record, circuit path information reflecting an actual path in the network used to support a specific service for the customer; and
- developing a graphical representation of a set of network circuits used to form the actual path.